

From: mds@2ndset.net@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:38am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I'm writing to log my opinion about the Proposed Final Judgement (PFJ) in the United States v. Microsoft antitrust trial. My name is Mario D. Santana. I have been writing software for Windows, Unix, Macintosh and other operating systems for 18 years. I am a US citizen registered to vote in Florida.

I believe that many provisions in the PFJ would be ineffective in achieving the stated goals of the PFJ. In my opinion, the main flaw is the lack of provisions guarding against predatory license practices. These practices leverage Microsoft's monopolies to force other businesses such as OEMs and ISVs to use Microsoft products and enhance Microsoft's monopolies still further. There are other flaws, such as the very narrow definitions of various key terms.

Time constraints prevent me from restating all the relevant technical and historical facts. These are available all over the internet, see for example Dan Kegel's excellent collection of resources at <http://www.kegel.com/remedy/>

Microsoft has abused rights protected by the Constitution and statutes of the United States, rights meant to benefit the public by protecting innovation. I hope changes are made to the PFJ to give back to the public the fruits of that abuse, and to keep such abuses from happening in the future.

Yours,

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